

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Keisuke Aoyama, *et al.*  
Serial No.: 10/798,505  
Filed: March 11, 2004  
Art Unit: 3684  
Examiner: MEINECKE DIAZ, Susanna M.  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTION CHAIN MANAGEMENT  
Confirmation No.: 6391

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO REOPEN PROSECUTION**

In response to the Decision of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit mandated January 18, 2012, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments in the above-referenced application, and request entry thereof to place the application in condition for Allowability:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 9 of this paper.